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MOORE & VAN ALLEN, PLLC For IBM
P.O. Box 13706
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

EXAMINER	
REYES, MARIELA D	
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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 10/711,954
Filing Date: October 15, 2004
Appellant(s): DANIELS ET AL.

Charles L. Moore
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed September 3, 2009 appealing from the Office action mailed October 10, 2008.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

6,950,861	Amro et al	9-2005
5,877,766	Bates et al	3-1999

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

With respect to claim 1:

Amro teaches:

A method to identify a previously visited URL in results from a search, comprising:

Loading a URL personal databook collection object in response to receiving the results of a network search by the search engine, (Column 3 Lines 15-19, discloses accessing the bookmarks (databook collection object) after receiving a search term) **wherein the URL personal databook collection object comprises URL references that have been previously visited by a user and selectively saved in the URL personal databook collection object by the user;** (Column 2 Lines 15-16, discloses that the bookmarks store a URL of a site that the user wants to store reference to)

Presenting all search results that satisfy the at least one search term including any URL references that have been previously visited by the user and selectively saved in the URL personal databook collection object by the user and including any URL references that satisfy the at least one search term but have not been previously visited by the user and therefore have not been saved in the URL personal databook collection object; and (Column 3 Lines 36-44, discloses

presenting other results, which are the web pages that are not stored in the user's bookmarks, and the bookmark results for said search term)

Identifying any matches between results from the search and any URL object references of previously visited URLs in the URL personal databook collection object. (Column 3 Lines 42-44, discloses identifying the bookmark results)

Amro does not appear to explicitly disclose **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object.**

Bates teaches **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object.** (Column 25 Lines 38-40, discloses a user being able to enter a comment about a document which includes the description of said document)

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of said references to implement **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object** because this facilitate a user to remember why said document or website is important to them.

With respect to claim 2:

Amro teaches **comparing the results from the search to any URL object references in the URL personal databook collection object to identify any matches.** (Column 3 Lines 36-46, discloses comparing the results so that the bookmark results can be identified)

With respect to claim 3:

Amro teaches **visually identifying any matches in the results from the search.** (Column 3 Lines 42-44, discloses identifying the bookmarked results)

With respect to claim 4:

Amro teaches **visually identifying any matches by at least one of a predetermined icon, a predetermined text font and highlighting.** (Column 3 Lines 42-44, discloses that the bookmark results are going to be highlighted)

With respect to claim 5:

Bates teaches **presenting the saved comment associated with any match only in response to positioning a computer pointing device on a selected visually identified match in the results from the search, wherein the saved comment is presented as a balloon from the associated match on a page displaying the search results.** (Column 25 Lines 33-41, discloses that a comment made of a document can be presented to the user as a balloon when the pointer is positioned in said document)

With respect to claim 6:

Amro teaches **selecting any results from the search containing content of interest for future reference.** (Column 3 Lines 44-46, discloses that the user is going to be able to select any of the results)

With respect to claim 7:

Amro teaches **storing only search results selected by a user in the URL personal databook collection object.** (Column 2 Lines 15-16, discloses that the user is the one that stores websites that are of interest to him in the bookmarks)

With respect to claim 8:

Amro teaches **storing the selected search results comprises storing a URL reference.** (Column 2 Lines 15-16, discloses that the selected web pages are stored including its URL reference)

With respect to claim 9:

Amro teaches **storing the URL reference as a serialized object.** (Column 2 Lines 15-16, discloses that the selected web pages are stored including its URL reference)

With respect to claim 10:

Bates teaches **storing any comments in association with the stored search results.** (Column 25 Lines 39-41, discloses storing user entered information including title or description)

With respect to independent claim 11:

Amro teaches:

A method to identify a previously visited URL in results from a search, comprising:

Entering at least one search term in a search engine; (Column 2 Lines 59-60)

Comparing the results from a network search by a search engine to any URL object references of previously visited URLs in a URL personal databook collection object; and (Column 3 Lines 36-44, discloses presenting other results, which are the web pages that are not stored in the user's bookmarks, and the bookmark results for said search term)

The URL personal databook collection object comprises URL references that have been previously visited by a user and selectively saved in the URL personal databook collection object by the user; (Column 2 Lines 15-16, discloses that the bookmarks store a URL of a site that the user wants to store reference to)

Visually identifying any matches between the results from the search and any URL object references in the URL personal databook collection (profile) **object.** (Column 3 Lines 42-44, discloses identifying the bookmark results)

Amro does not appear to explicitly disclose **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object.**

Bates teaches **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object.** (Column 25 Lines 38-40, discloses a user being able to enter a comment about a document which includes the description of said document)

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of said references to implement **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object** because this facilitate a user to remember why said document or website is important to them.

With respect to claim 12:

Amro teaches **loading the URL personal databook collection object in response to presenting the results from the search.** (Column 3 Lines 15-19, discloses accessing the bookmarks (databook collection object) after receiving a search term)

With respect to claim 13:

Bates teaches **presenting any saved or captured comments associated with any matches in response to positioning a computer pointing device on a selected visually identified match in results from the search, wherein the saved or captured comments are presented on a page displaying the search results.** (Column 25 Lines 36-41, discloses presenting the comments of a document when the pointer device is positioned over it)

With respect to claim 14:

Amro teaches **selecting any results from the search containing content of interest for future reference in response to no matches; and** (Column 3 Lines 44-46, discloses that the user is going to be able to select any of the results)

Storing any selected search results in the URL personal databook collection object. (Column 2 Lines 15-16, discloses that the selected web pages are stored including its URL reference)

With respect to claim 15:

Bates teaches **presenting a dialogue box to enter comments related to any stored search results; and storing and selected search results in the URL personal databook collection object.** (Column 25 Lines 36-41, discloses that a user can store comments for each file)

With respect to independent claim 34:

Amro teaches:

A method to identify a previously visited URL in results from a search, comprising:

receiving results from a search of websites on a network corresponding to at least one search term, wherein only the at least one search term is entered by a user and only the at least one search term is used by a search engine to perform the search; (Column 3 Lines 36-38)

loading a URL personal databook collection object only after receiving the results of the network search by the search engine, (Column 3 Lines 15-19, discloses accessing the bookmarks (databook collection object) after receiving a search term) **wherein the URL personal databook collection object comprises URL references that have been previously visited by a user and selectively saved in the URL personal databook collection object by the user;** (Column 2 Lines 15-16, discloses that the bookmarks store a URL of a site that the user wants to store reference to)

presenting all search results that satisfy the at least one search term including any URL references that have been previously visited by the user and selectively saved in the URL personal databook collection object by the user and including any URL references that satisfy the at least one search term but have not been previously visited by the user and therefore have not been saved in the

URL personal databook collection object; (Column 3 Lines 36-44, discloses presenting other results, which are the web pages that are not stored in the user's bookmarks, and the bookmark results for said search term)

identifying any matches between results from the search and any URL object references of previously visited URLs in the URL personal databook collection object; and(Column 3 Lines 42-44, discloses identifying the bookmark results)

Amro does not appear to explicitly disclose **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object; presenting the saved comment associated with any match only in response to positioning a computer pointing device on a selected visually identified match in the results from the search, wherein the saved comment is presented as a balloon from the associated match on a page displaying the search results.**

Bates teaches **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object;** (Column 25 Lines 38-40, discloses a user being able to enter a comment about a document which includes the description of said document) **presenting the saved comment associated with any match only in response to positioning a computer pointing device on a selected visually identified match in the results from the search, wherein the saved comment is presented as a balloon from the associated match on a page displaying the**

search results. (Column 25 Lines 33-41, discloses that a comment made of a document can be presented to the user as a balloon when the pointer is positioned in said document)

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of said references to implement **a comment, associated with each URL reference, entered and saved by the user to indicate a reason why each URL reference was stored in the URL personal databook collection object; presenting the saved comment associated with any match only in response to positioning a computer pointing device on a selected visually identified match in the results from the search, wherein the saved comment is presented as a balloon from the associated match on a page displaying the search results** because this facilitate a user to remember why said document or website is important to them.

(10) Response to Argument

The instant invention recites a URL personal databook collection object that stores URL references previously visited by a user. Searching the web and the databook collection object in response to a user search term and identifying matches between web results and databook results.

The combination of Amro and Bates teaches a method of searching websites including websites associated with user bookmarks and presenting said search results

identifying the results that are bookmarks wherein the bookmarks include user comments describing the bookmark and the reason to be bookmarked.

With respect to independent claim 1:

Appellant argues in Appeal Brief pages 5-6 "The combination of Amro and Bates does not teach or suggest loading a URL personal databook collection object in response to receiving the results of a network search as provided by the embodiment of the present invention"

Examiner maintains that Amro (Column 3 Lines 5-14) discloses a search engine receiving a search term and using a database to search for the search term. After the database search, the search engine loads and searches the bookmarks to find matches. The bookmarks are accessed (loaded) **after** the database search has already been executed; therefore the bookmarks will be accessed in response to a web search. Examiner, also noted that Amro (Fig. 4 Elements 412-418) discloses (412) receiving a search term and an identifier, (414) searching a database using the search term and after searching a database searching websites associated with bookmarks (416); therefore Amro disclosed the bookmarks are accessed after a database search has already been executed. Further, Bates reference is relied upon for teaching that a user will be able to add a comment to be associated with each bookmark; said comment including the description of the document.

Appellant also argues in Appeal Brief page 7 “Applicants respectfully submit that the URL personal databook collection object of the embodiments of the present invention are distinguishable from the bookmarks as commonly known in the computing arts and as used by Amro. Bookmarks are short cuts or direct links to websites whereas the personal databook collection of the embodiments of the present invention is used as an aid to help a user identify URLs in search results that have been previously visited and to recall why a particular URL was previously visited."

Applicant's claim defines URL personal databook object as URL references that have been previously visited by a user and selectively saved by the user. Amro (Column 2 Lines 14-20) discloses that a bookmark is a reference to a website created and stored by the user. Therefore the instant URL personal databook object is the same as Amro bookmarks because they both store reference to a website based on a user selection.

Examiner applies the above presented claim 1 arguments to claim 11, 34 and dependent claims 12-15.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

/Mariela D Reyes/

Examiner, Art Unit 2167

Conferees:

John Cottingham, SPE Art Unit 2167

/John R. Cottingham/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2167

/Srirama Channavajjala/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2166